

*** Please note additional agenda item under Executive Session.**

*** Please note additional agenda item, Resolution No. 08-12-31.**

Both items added after legal ad was published in the Cranston Herald on

Thursday, December 11, 2008.

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2008

WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

400 PHENIX AVENUE

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC SESSION: 7:00 P.M.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order – 6:00 p.m. – Convene to Executive Session pursuant to RI State Laws PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel; PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation (Program Supervisors; Contract Negotiations' Update; Caruolo Action; *UBIO Matter)

II. Executive Session

III. Call to Order

IV. Roll Call / Quorum

V. Executive Session Minutes Sealed – December 15, 2008

**VI. Minutes of Previous Meetings Approved – November 10, 2008;
November 17, 2008; and November 24, 2008**

VII. Public Acknowledgements / Communications

VIII. Chairperson Communications

IX. Superintendent Communications

X. School Committee Member Communications

XI. Public Hearing

a. Students (Agenda/Non-agenda Matters)

b. Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only)

XII. Consent Agenda

SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE

NO. 08-12-1 - Whereas, Catherine Moretta has been a dedicated and loyal employee of the Cranston Public Schools since October 18, 1983, and

Whereas, she began her career as a Central Administration Secretary and was later appointed to the position of Executive Administrative Assistant to the Cranston School Committee, and

Whereas, Mrs. Moretta spent countless hours serving and supporting various School Committees for eleven years, and

Whereas, the Cranston School Committee and the Administration want Mrs. Moretta to know how much her work ethic and loyalty are appreciated,

Be it RESOLVED, that the Cranston School Committee and the Administration thank and congratulate Mrs. Moretta for her many years of outstanding service to the school district and her strong and positive commitment to her profession and,

Be it further RESOLVED, that Mrs. Moretta receive a copy of this resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.

SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE

NO. 08-12-2 – Whereas, Sheila Grace, a teacher at Cranston High School East; Angela Palazini, a teacher at Western Hills Middle School; Debourah Petteruti, a teacher at Edgewood Highland School; and Paula Polseno, a teacher at Glen Hills School, have earned the prestigious National Board of Professional Teaching Standards Certification, and

Whereas, these teachers have demonstrated by earning National Board certification that they have met the high and rigorous standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do. NBPTS certification is a national voluntary system certifying teachers who meet these rigorous standards through intensive study, expert evaluation, self assessment and peer review, and

Whereas, as part of the process, these teachers built a portfolio that included student work samples, assignments, videotapes and a thorough analysis of their classroom teaching. Additionally, these teachers were assessed on their knowledge of the subjects they teach, and

Whereas, these teachers are committed to the five core propositions of National Board certification in their commitment to students and learning, knowing the subjects they teach and how to teach them; are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning, think systematically about their practice and learn from experience; and are members of a learning community, and

Whereas, these teachers are among the thirty-seven teachers who earned certification in Rhode Island during the 2007-2008 school year,

Be it RESOLVED that these four teachers be recognized by the Cranston School Committee for their outstanding accomplishments in earning certification from the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, and

Be it further RESOLVED that each of these teachers be presented with a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.

SPONSORED BY MS. IANNAZZI AND MR. STYCOS

NO. 08-12-3 - Whereas, Cranston City Council members and members of the public have repeatedly complained that the Cranston Public Schools' budget is difficult to understand, and

Whereas, the Mayor and Cranston City Council have granted the Cranston Public Schools budget increases of less than one percent during the last two years, and

Whereas, the Cranston School Committee wants the public to know as much as possible about its finances,

Be it RESOLVED, that the Cranston School Committee directs the

Superintendent to prepare the 2009-2010 school budget in a form that mirrors the City's budget form and adheres to the best practice recommendations of the Government Finance Officers'

Association. The School Committee also suggests that the administration may wish to

meet with the City's Director of Finance, the City Council Internal Auditor, and others to complete this project, and

Be it further RESOLVED, that the Superintendent shall complete the portion of the budget that provides seven years of historical data by January 15, 2009.

SPONSORED BY MR. TRAFICANTE, MS. IANNAZZI, AND MR. LOMBARDI

NO. 08-12-4 - Whereas, on March 26, 2007, Cranston's Mayor and the Cranston City Council President joined together by resolution to implement Project Redirect, and

Whereas, Project Redirect called for the development of several sub-committees consisting of school and municipal officials, and

Whereas, the sub-committees would study and make recommendations for potential legislative action by the City Administration, City Council, and School Committee for the purpose to incorporate and implement changes in the organizational structure of city government and school department, and

Whereas, these organizational changes would benefit the City's taxpayers through departmental consolidation and the elimination of service duplications of effort,

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that a committee be formed to continue the work started under Project Redirect, and

Be it further RESOLVED that the committee consist of the following personnel:

- Mayor-elect or his representative**
- City Council President-elect**
- School Committee Chairperson-elect**
- Two members of the Cranston City Council-elect selected by the Council President-elect**
- Two members of the School Committee-elect selected by the Chairperson-elect**
- The Superintendent of Cranston Public Schools or his representative**
- And, city and school department directors, as required by the committee, to include but not limited to:**

Personnel

Purchasing

MIS

Transportation

Vehicle Maintenance
Property Maintenance
Building Maintenance
Recreation
Athletics

Be it further RESOLVED that the committee commence its study as soon as practicable and shall expeditiously implement those recommendations that benefit Cranston taxpayers with the approval of all parties concerned.

ADMINISTRATION

PERSONNEL

NO. 08-12-5 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:

Sean Kelly

High School Principal

Cranston High School East

Contract Effective: July 1, 2009

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 08-12-6 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:

David Alba

Elementary Principal

Glen Hills School

Contract Effective: July 1, 2009

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 08-12-7 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:

Lynda Wagner

Assistant Principal

Cranston High School East

Contract Effective: July 1, 2009

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 08-12-8 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:

Pamela Thompson

Assistant Principal for Special and Related Services

Cranston High School East

Contract Effective: July 1, 2009

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 08-12-9 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:

Ann Marie Zodda

Special Education Director

Special Services Center

Contract Effective: July 1, 2009

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 08-12-10 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:

Michele Simpson

Special Education Director

Special Services Center

Contract Effective: July 1, 2009

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 08-12-11 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:

Gerald Schimmel

Special Education Director

Special Services Center

Contract Effective: July 1, 2009

See Attached Financial Impact Analysis

NO. 08-12-12 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the

Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Richard Krajewski General Subject Matter

Virginia Peak Secondary English

Gloria Johnson Spanish / Art

Karen Eknaian Secondary Biology

Julie Teixeira Elementary

NO. 08-12-13 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:

Mary Sue Mulligan, Principal

Dutemple

Effective Date: January 2, 2009

Valerian Don Zapasnik, Teacher

Itinerant

Effective Date: December 20, 2008

NO. 08-12-14 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the

Superintendent, the following individuals be reappointed as athletic coaches:

CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL WEST

Meghan Reynolds Assistant Girls' Indoor Track

BAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Nelson Rico Head Wrestling

NO. 08-12-15 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be appointed as athletic coaches:

Michael Penza, Head Wrestling, Cranston High School East

Step – 3

Class – B

Playing Competition – Cranston High School East / Rhode Island College

Experience – Cranston High School East Volunteer Coach Wrestling

Certification – Rhode Island Coaches' Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid Certified

Brandon Scotti, Assistant Wrestling, Cranston High School East

Step – 3

Class – D

Playing Competition – Cranston High School East

Experience – None

Certification - Rhode Island Coaches' Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid Certified

James Gemma, Head Boys' Basketball, Park View Middle School

Step – 3

Class – D

Playing Competition – High School

Experience – Assistant Boys' Coach, Cranston High School West

Certification - Rhode Island Coaches' Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid Certified

Christopher Muncy, Assistant Hockey, Cranston High School East

Step – 1

Class – D

Playing Competition – High School

Experience – Recreational Leagues

Rhode Island Coaches' Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid Certified

Joshua Procaccianti, Head Wrestling, Park View Middle School

Step – 2

Class – D

Playing Competition – High School

Experience – Bain Middle School, Boys' Soccer

Certification – Rhode Island Coaches Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid Certified

NO. 08-12-16 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual be reappointed as a volunteer coach:

Matthew Brannon Cranston High School West Hockey

NO. 08-12-17 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be appointed as volunteer coaches:

Justin Zmed Cranston Girls' Hockey

Walter Brown Cranston High School East Girls' Basketball

NO. 08-12-18 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following coach be accepted:

Victor Caldarone, Head Wrestling

Western Hills Middle School

Effective Date: November 19, 2008

NO. 08-12-19 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

SECRETARY

Beverly Allen

TEACHER ASSISTANT

Lidia Santos

NO. 08-12-20 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Joseph Algasso, Foreman

Plant

Effective Date: December 30, 2008

NO. 08-12-21 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Dawn Corvese, Bus Monitor

Transportation

Effective Date: November 7, 2008

NO. 08-12-22 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, named non-certified staff members be laid off from their respective positions due to budgetary reasons.

NO. 08-12-23 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the

Superintendent, the termination of non-certified Employee A be accepted.

NO. 08-12-24 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the termination of non-certified Employee B be accepted.

BUSINESS

NO. 08-12-25 – Whereas, the District currently offers the Cranston Public Schools 403(b) Retirement Plan (the “Plan”) to give its employees the opportunity to save additional funds for retirement; and

Whereas, the District desires to restate and amend the Plan to comply with final regulations issued with respect to Internal Revenue Code section 403(b); and

Whereas, there has been presented to the meeting a copy of the proposed restated and amended Plan; and

Whereas, the District desires to adopt a policy statement regarding the manner in which annuity contract(s) and/or custodial account(s) (referred to hereafter as “Funding Vehicles”) and/or investment

providers offering annuity contract(s) and/or custodial account(s) (referred to hereafter as “Vendors”) made available under the Plan will be selected and deselected; and

Whereas, there has been presented to the meeting a copy of the proposed Policy Regarding Funding Vehicles(s) / Vendor(s) Selection and Deselection under the Plan (the “Policy Statement”); and

Whereas, after full discussion, the adoption and executive of the plan and the adoption of the Policy Statement appear to be in the best interest of the District and its employees;

Be it RESOLVED that the Plan substantially in the form presented to the meeting be and is hereby adopted and approved by the Cranston School Committee, effective as of January 1, 2009; and

Be it further RESOLVED that a copy of the Plan be attached to and made a part of the minutes of this meeting as Exhibit A thereto; and

Be it further RESOLVED that the Policy Statement substantially in the form presented to the meeting be and is hereby adopted and approved by the Cranston School Committee, effective as of the date of this meeting as set forth above; and

Be it further RESOLVED that a copy of the Policy Statement be attached to and made a part of the minutes of this meeting as Exhibit

B thereto; and

Be it further RESOLVED that a “Benefits Plan Committee” (the “Committee”) is hereby established as of January 1, 2009 and will serve as named Administrator of the Plan; and

Be it further RESOLVED that the individuals who hold the following listed positions in the District are hereby nominated and appointed as members of the Committee: School Committee member, Superintendent or designee, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer; and

Be it finally RESOLVED that the Committee (or its designee) is authorized and directed to take such actions as may be necessary or advisable in connection with the implementation of the Plan and Policy Statement including, without limitation, selecting one or more types of annuity contracts and/or custodial accounts to be offered as investment fund options under the Plan in accordance with the provisions of the Policy Statement regarding the selection and/or deselection of Funding Vehicles(s) and/or Vendor(s) under the Plan; entering into agreements with Vendor(s) to offer one or more types of annuity contracts and/or custodial accounts as investment fund options under the Plan pursuant to provisions of the Policy Statement; selecting and entering into an agreement with a third party plan administrator and/or other service provider(s) to carry out certain administrative and other duties of the Committee; preparing

and distributing employee communications and notices; entering into agreements with Plan participants regarding participation in the Plan; following the directions of Plan participants regarding Plan participant contributions and investment elections; appointing one or more employees of the District to carry out certain administrative duties of the Committee; maintaining records of all transactions and executing and delivering the Plan substantially in the form presented to the meeting (with such changes, additions and deletions therefrom as may be deemed necessary, appropriate or advisable by the Committee; the execution thereof to be conclusive evidence of the approval by the Committee of such changes, additions and deletions), including any amendments as may from time to time be required and to make such additional amendments to the Plan or execute such further documents as may be necessary or desirable, all without the further approval of the Cranston School Committee, except as to any matter that will have a substantial and material impact on the cost of funding or administering the Plan.

NO. 08-12-26 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:

Physicals for Bus Drivers be awarded to ATMED for the period from 1/1/09 through 6/30/12 at a rate of \$45.00 per physical and \$10.00 for the TB test.

Number of bids issued 6

Number of bids received 4

**NO. 08-12-27 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:
(Fund 3)**

**Cafeteria Food and Supplies for the Cranston School Lunch Program
for the**

**Period of January 1, 2009 to June 30, 2009 be purchased in the
estimated amount of \$376,447.29.**

Number of bids issued 8

Number of bids received 2

**NO. 08-12-28 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:
(Perkins)**

**Southbend Broiler and Range in the amount of \$7,500 for the
Cranston Area**

Career & Technical Center Culinary Arts Program.

Number of bids issued 11

Number of bids received 5

POLICY AND PROGRAM

NO. 08-12-29 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following Conferences/Trips of Long Duration be authorized:

Barbara Ferraro, school psychologist, to travel to Boston, Massachusetts, to attend the National Association of School Psychologists conference from February 24, 2009 to February 26, 2009. (Funding: No cost to the school department; being paid for by Barbara Ferraro.)

Deborah Mellion, Director of Literacy, to travel to San Antonio, Texas, to attend the Mission Possible National Title 1 Conference from February 18, 2009 to February 22, 2009. (Funding: Title 1)

Mark Garceau, Principal of Gladstone School, and Marie C. Palazzo, Susan Sullivan, and Roxanne Murphy, all teachers at Gladstone School, to travel to San Antonio, Texas, to attend the Mission Possible National Title I Annual Conference from February 18, 2009 to February 22, 2009. (Funding: Title 1)

Karen Verrengia, Energy Manager for Cranston Public Schools, to travel to Fort Worth, Texas, from February 16, 2009 to February 18, 2009 to attend the Energy Education, Inc. Winter Seminar. (Funding: General Fund per contract.)

NO. 08-12-30 – RESOLVED, that regulations for Policy No. 5147,

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, be amended for second and final reading.

*** NO. 08-12-31 – RESOLVED, that the stipulated order in the UBIO, Inc. versus City of Cranston and Cranston School Committee, Rhode Island Supreme Court Case No. 03-4858, as recommended by the Superintendent, be approved.**

XIII. Action Agenda

TABLED RESOLUTION

NO. 08-9-4 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2008-2009 school budget be amended.

XIV. New Business

XV. Public Hearing on Non-Agenda Items

XVI. Announcement of Future Meetings

XVII. Adjournment

School Committee members who are unable to attend this meeting are asked to notify the Chairman in advance.

Interested persons and the public at large, upon advance notice, will be given a fair opportunity to be heard at said meeting on the items proposed on the Agenda.

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Superintendent's Office at 270-8143 72 hours in advance of hearing date.

Any changes in the agenda pursuant to RIGL 42-46-6(e) will be posted on the school district's web site at www.cpsed.net, Cranston Public Schools' administration building, 845 Park Ave., Cranston, RI; and Cranston City Hall, 869 Park Ave., Cranston, RI and will be electronically filed with the Secretary of State at least forty-eight hours (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

Notice Posted: Cranston Herald / December 11, 2008

SECOND READING

CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

NOTICE OF PARENTAL AND STUDENT RIGHTS

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, commonly referred to as Section 504, is a nondiscrimination statute enacted by the United States Congress.

The purpose of the Act is to prohibit discrimination and to assure that students with disabilities have educational opportunities and benefits equal to those provided to students without disabilities. Specifically, Section 504 provides that: No qualified disabled person shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity which receives or benefits from Federal financial assistance.

An eligible student under Section 504 is a student who:

- has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities**
- has a record of such an impairment, or**
- is regarded as having such an impairment.**

Major life activities include functions such as:

- caring for one's self - performing manual tasks**
- walking - hearing**
- breathing - seeing**
- working - speaking**
- learning**

When a condition does not substantially limit a major life activity, the individual does not qualify for services under Section 504 and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Both you and the Cranston Public Schools share in the education of your child. If your child has or is suspected of having a disability under Section 504 you should be aware that you have the right to:

- 1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability;**
- 2. Receive notice with respect to the identification, evaluation and placement of your child;**
- 3. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate;**
- 4. Have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school related and extra-curricular activities;**
- 5. Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided to students without disabilities;**

6. Have evaluation, education, and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources and by a group of people, including persons knowledgeable about your child and the placement/service options;

5147 (b)

7. Have your child receive special education and related services if he/she is found to be eligible under the individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act;

8. Have transportation provided to and from a district made alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the district;

9. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program and placement;

10. Obtain copies of educational record at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records;

11. A response from the Cranston Public Schools to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records;

12. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child;

13. Request mediation and grievance procedure related to decisions

or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement;

The person in the Cranston Public Schools who is responsible for assuring that the district complies with Section 504 is:

Section 504 Coordinator

Telephone Number (401) 270-8137

(401) 270-8642 (FAX)

(401) 270-8115 (TDD)

Address Cranston Public Schools

845 Park Avenue

Cranston, Rhode Island 02910

14. Initiate a due process hearing by an impartial hearing officer on any matter relating to the proposal or refusal of the Cranston Public Schools to initiate or change the identification, evaluation or placement of the child if you are unable to resolve the issue at the school system level;

Parents may forward a request for a hearing in writing to the Rhode Island Department of Education. The person who is responsible for assuring compliance with due process procedures under Section 504 is:

Commissioner of Education

Telephone Number (401) 222-4600

(401) 222-6178 (FAX)

(800) 745-5555 (TTY)

Rhode Island Department of Education

Shepard Building

255 Westminister Street

Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

5147 (c)

Additional information may be obtained regarding your rights under Section 504 by contacting:

U. S. Department of Education

Office of Civil Rights

Eastern Division

Telephone Number (617) 223-9662 (TTY/TTD) (617) 223-9695

Address Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office

U. S. Department of Education

J. W. McCormack Post Office & Courthouse

Room 701

Boston, MA 002109-4557

Regulations Adopted: May 21, 2001 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Resolution No.: 01-5-36 Cranston, Rhode Island
Regulations Amended:
Resolution No.:

Administrator's Compensation Schedule

Fiscal Year 2009-2010

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL	ANN	SALARY
HEALTH	DENTAL	LIFE	PENSION	DISABILITY
SURV	BEN	OASDI	MEDICARE	TOTAL
Fringe	Sal	& Fringe		

Sean Kelly Principal East 105,798.00 0 0 65 17,605 254 96 1534
19,553.77 125,351.77

Lynda Wagner Asst Principal East 92,876.00 0 999 65 15,455
223 96 1347 18,184.17 111,060.17

Pamela Thompson Asst Principal SE East 88,409.00 16185 999 65
14,711 212 96 1282 33,550.37 121,959.37

AnnMarie Zodda SE Administrator Horton 95,600.00 16185 999 65
15,908 229 96 1386 34,868.48 130,468.48

Michele Simpson SE Administrator ECC 96,407.00 16185 999 65
16,042 231 96 1398 35,016.40 131,423.40

Gerald Schimmel SE Administrator Horton 96,407.00 16185 999 65
16,042 231 96 1398 35,016.40 131,423.40

David Alba Principal Glen Hills 92,497.00 6318 293 65 15,392
222 96 1341 23,726.70 116,223.70

176,189.60 751,686.60

Administrator's Compensation Schedule

Fiscal Year 2010-2011

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL	ANN	SALARY
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HEALTH DENTAL LIFE PENSION DISABILITY SURV

BEN OASDI MEDICARE TOTAL Fringe Sal & Fringe

Sean Kelly	Principal East	105,798.00	0 0 65	19,710	254 96	1534
21,659	127,457					

Lynda Wagner	Asst Principal East	92,876.00	6590 1069 65	17,303		
223 96	1347	26,692	119,568			

48,352	247,026
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